FBIS DAILY REPORT CONTENTS

Latin America

Vol VI No 020 *29 January 1980*

ARGENTINA

'Weak Response' to Olympic Boycott Plan Deplored B 1
[LA PRENSA 26 Jan]
Support Urged for U.S. Decision on Grain Embargo B 2
[LA PRENSA 25 Jan]
Viola Predicts Difficult Year With United States B 2
[CLARIN 25 Jan]

BRAZIL

Beginning of Second Cold War Foreseen D 1
[O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO 23 Jan]
Newspaper Analyzes Policy Differences With U.S. D 2
[JORNAL DO BRASIL 23 Jan]
Information Lacking on U.S. Special Envoy's Agenda D 3
CACEX Warns of Danger of Dependence on Arab Oil D 3
Nuclear Agreement Signed With Iraq D 4
Labor, Student Leaders, Politicians To Visit PLO Camps D 4
Senegalese Foreign Minister Condemns Intervention in Africa D 4
[O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO 26 Jan]
Mexican Navy Interested in Purchasing Corvettes D 4
[O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO 25 Jan]

COLOMBIA

Uribe Urges Peaceful Solution to Nicaraguan Dispute F 1
U.S. Position Sought F 1
Advisory Board To Meet F 1

ECUADOR

Olympic Committee Opposes Boycott of Moscow Games G 1
Government Accuses MPD of Promoting Unrest G 1
Longshoremen Stage Protest in Front of Soviet Ship G 1
Briefs: Agreement With Mexico G 1

VENEZUELA

Montserrat Satisfied With Venezuela Caribbean Policy L 1
Algeria's Ben Yahia Heads Arab League Delegation L 1

PANAMA

CONATO Strike Termed '80-Percent Effective' N 1

Business Activity Reduced N 1
CONATO Claims Massive Support N 1
CONATO Strike 'Failure' N 1
NBC Correspondent Expelled by Authorities N 2
Reasons Cited N 2
Japanese Delegation Arrives for Canal Studies N 3

CENTRAL AMERICA

EL SALVADOR

Columnist Views Present Role of Armed Forces P 1
[LA PRENSA GRAFICA 25 Jan]
Chavez Mena Criticizes Soviet Invasion, Olympics Boycott P 2
Labor Leaders Claim Economy Losing $100 Million Daily P 2
[EL INDEPENDIENTE 25 Jan]
PDC Communique Charges Rightist Repression P 3
[EL MUNDO 23 Jan]
New Anticommunist Organization Created P 4
[LA PRENSA GRAFICA 24 Jan]
Communiques Issued P 5

HONDURAS

Press Comments on Bowdler's 'Mystery' Visit P 6
Civilians, Military Units Reportedly Clash P 6

NICARAGUA

Official Reports Coffee Sales to USSR, Harvest Estimate P 7
Industry Minister Clarifies His Ministry's Work Program P 7
Nunez Confirms Intention To Establish 'Mixed Economy' P 8
Police Adviser Discusses Plans For Judicial Reform P 9
Andean Pact Delegation Arrives for Visit P

CUBA

Castro Issues Statement on Situation in Rhodesia Q 1
Rodriguez Meets With GDR Electronics Minister Q 2
Trade Talks With Portugal Open in Havana Q 2
Government Takes Measures on Right of Asylum Q 2
Briefs: Ambassador to Canada Q 2

CARIBBEAN

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

Fishermen Detained in Cuba; Credit Agreement With Haiti S 1

GRENADA

Bishop: U.S. Main Threat to Peace in Mideast S 1
Grenada Prime Minister Arrives in Algiers [cross-reference] S 1
Financial Aid From Algeria, Libya, Syria Forthcoming S 1

JAMAICA

Cultural, Scientific Agreement With Soviets Updated S 2
[DAILY GLEANER 21 Jan]
Effect of Past Financial Aid 'Slow Poison' S 2

TRINIDAD & TOBAGO

Nigerian Envoy Recalled After Dispute With Argentina S 3

ST LUCIA

Louisy Replaces Opposing Ministers Trying to Topple Him S 3
[GUARDIAN 24 Jan]

ST VINCENT

Prime Minister Cato Retains Seven-Man Cabinet S 4
23 Involved in Abortive Coup Formally Charged S 4

'WEAK RESPONSE' TO OLYMPIC BOYCOTT PLAN DEPLORED

PY282000 Buenos Aires LA PRENSA in Spanish 26 Jan 80 p 6 PY

[Editorial: "The Boycott of the Olympic Games"]

[Text] Although 102 UN member countries have condemned the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan, only a few of them seem to be willing to convert their repudiation of the Kremlin's armed intervention into deeds. This is gathered from the weak response to President Carter's proposal to boycott the Olympic games to be held in Moscow this year. The Soviet Union can only feel encouraged by the prospects that the aggression committed against the Afghan people will in the end be judged only a slight offense, lacking the importance necessary to justify a measure such as the one proposed by the U.S. President.

Both the International Olympic Committee and national olympic committees, with some exceptions, among which are those of Canada and Egypt, have indicated that they will reject the U.S. initiative. They do not pass any judgment on the facts listed by the White House as reasons for its proposal; they simply believe that a boycott would not lead to the desired result and that in the end--and this is the most serious thing--the boycott is abetting political maneuvers which the international sports leaders have no reason to aid or support. The argument is deceptive and founded on the presumed incompatibility of sports and politics; it could be heeded, if the deduction were made that no type of political speculations is involved in sports events, much less any attempts to take advantage of them for ideological purposes.

The boycott proposed by the United States, however, goes far beyong the narrow sphere in which the leaders of the International Olympic Committee want to enclose it, because it has the nature of a moral punishment of a state attacking a defenseless people, in this way trying to awaken the conscience of the world to resist such acts. The feebleness of the reasons given for opposing the boycott becomes quite clear when it is regretted in advance that the International Olympic Committee would lose $100 million in television transmission rights if the boycott proposal prospers. The argument of the "4 lost years" (referring to the training of the athletes) which would be caused by the suspension of the Moscow games is equally deplorable. The lack of high-mindedness in these approaches should cause serious concern. At this "hour of truth" the United States will have reason to find that the number of the friends of freedom is much lower than an optimistic assessment could have made it believe at the beginning. The argument that "sports should not be mixed with politics" is not only empty of all reason but is based on the absurd notion that the pursuit of sports takes place on a level where "things of this world" could not or should not intrude.

What limit must the Soviet Union's boldness, cruelty and injustice reach; how much indifference to other people's rights must it show before it is believed that the time has come to morally condemn it, as proposed through the boycott of the Moscow games? No charter of any international organization has established that limit or any legal standard for imposing it. It is strictly a case of conscience, sensitivity and reaction to outrage. Behind the reluctance to support the U.S. proposal can be seen the weakening of the Western spirit, which is very advantageous for Moscow.

SUPPORT URGED FOR U.S. DECISION ON GRAIN EMBARGO

PY281724 Buenos Aires LA PRENSA in Spanish 25 Jan 80 p 8 PY

[Editorial: Grain Embargo and Human Rights]

[Excerpts] President Carter's special envoy has arrived unexpectedly in this city, and, accompanied by the U.S. ambassador to this country, has held private talks with the foreign and economy ministers. An official communique was released at the end of the talks confirming reports by an authorized Foreign Ministry spokesman that the talks referred to "the crisis in Afghanistan and the urgent development of the restriction of grain sales by the United States." The spokesman also added that Argentine-U.S. relations were discussed.

We reported in an 11 January editorial on the grain embargo proposed by the United States and stated that reaction in view of the evil invasion of Afghanistan should be to drastically cut the delivery of wheat which the Soviet Union desperately needs, and not simply to reduce it as is the case now. We stated then that the American decision was not enough, too small and led nowhere. We now add nevertheless that it is a sanction in which all the Western countries should cooperate, because all of them, and not just the United States, have been aggravated and cynically ridiculed by the Soviet Union. Consequently we believe that in view of this emergency we should not hesitate to adopt a common tactic with other governments that would permit the invader to be punished in the indicated way with the least possible harm to Argentine interests, which should be equitably safeguarded.

On the other hand, human rights in our country cannot be the object of any negotiations, not even in an indirect or restrictive form. It could not have been included in the discussion of Argentine-U.S. relations because human rights constitute an internal matter in which no government, not even ours or any international organization of which Argentina is a signatory, can intervene. According to the country's current institutional system, human rights are guaranteed by the Constitution and safeguarded by the judges.

VIOLA PREDICTS DIFFICULT YEAR WITH UNITED STATES

PY260153 Buenos Aires CLARIN in Spanish 25 Jan 80 p 6 PY

[Exclusive undated interview with former Army Commander Gen Roberto Viola in Mar del Plata]

[Excerpts] [Question] During the past few years has Washington ever pressed for elections?

[Answer] We are going to be fair and honest about this. The United States has never applied any pressure in this regard, and you can be sure that it will not. I could tell you that I have the grounds for making a judgment that it has no interest in doing it.

Viola believes that this year will not be the best for relations with the North Americans and that "the grain problem has shown that there is an obvious lack of communication with the United States," but that the mission of Carter's special envoy will serve to clarify a few things." He said: "Regarding the position adopted by Argentina in view of the U.S. request, we did not have many alternatives. The blame should be divided a little. There is an entire study to be made. Look, 10 years ago when I was in the Argentine mission in Washington, I wrote a professional study on differences of opinion with the United States on matters of security. There are certain things that are secondary to them and very important to us and vice versa. This is currently the case."

BEGINNING OF SECOND COLD WAR FORESEEN

PY252120 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 23 Jan 80 p 3 PY

[From the "Notes and Information" page: "The Total Change of an Impossible Policy"]

[Excerpts] Hastily published excerpts of the State of the Union message which President Jimmy Carter will present today to the two congressional chambers, gathered in a joint session, are ample proof that the policy of appeasement--which was given the more sophisticated and seductive name detente--has finally been pigeonholed. Through the authorized voice of its President, the United States has officially begun the second cold war. The attitude of the democratic superpower could be no different, because did it not resort--as Harry Truman did in 1947--to the policy of "containment?" [given in English] Soviet expansionism, which is proceeding at an accelerated pace, in a few years would have achieved its avowed objective: world domination.

The control of the Persian Gulf and of the two maritime routes is the key to world hegemony--at least that is what the Soviets have retained from the political testament of Tsar Peter the Great (1721). It is not necessary to stress the validity of that statement. It has not been for nothing that the Russians have tried to seize Iran several times since the beginning of the 18th century. This is the prize in the tremendous conflict that is formally beginning today.

A UPI commentator recalls the difference in tone between the 1979 and 1980 State of the Union messages. In 1979, Carter's style was that of a mellifluous supporter of detente. In 1980, the tone is that of a born "cold warrior." [given in English] We hope that following this drastic change of opinion about the Soviets that has taken place during the past 3 weeks, the U.S. leader has learned the lessons of history once and for all. If he was forced to speak and act in this manner at this time, possibly going against the impulses of his missionary soul, it was because he let himself become involved, albeit following the example of Henry Kissinger, with the policy of detente, tailored to suit Soviet interests. Bitter is the awakening from a lengthy and profound illusion. Nevertheless, it is better to awaken late than never.

Carter is following in Truman's footsteps. He announces the same doctrine of contention in the face of Soviet expansionism, and he promises that Pakistan will get the same aid that Roosevelt's successor promised Greece and Turkey. The second cold war has started in the same regions in which the first one started. Moreover, the West's situation is much more difficult in 1980 than it was in 1947. What is causing apprehension is the West's habit of always arriving late.

Johnson promised to aid Romania after Czechoslovakia was invaded. Carter promises aid to Pakistan after the invasion of Afghanistan. Would it not have been possible to prevent the initial aggression? The U.S. decision to regain its military superiority is an auspicious sign. Therefore, it is hoped that the United States understands this and, even more important, that it has the courage to use its strength. The tanks must not remain parked in the arsenals but, for example, sent to Saudi Arabia, which is feeling the threat of the 20,000 Russian soldiers bivouacked in Yemen.

NEWSPAPER ANALYZES POLICY DIFFERENCES WITH U.S.

PY252243 Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 23 Jan 80 p 10 PY

[Editorial: "Natural Differences"]

[Text] The typical problems of the current world crisis only seemingly cause new ruffles in Brazilian-U.S. relations. Substantially, nothing has changed in the protracted efforts which Brazilians and Americans have been making in the past 3 decades to give clarity and objectivity to their natural and necessary dialog. Brazil is interested in conducting an increasingly more sincere exchange of ideas on mutual interests. Because this exchange is traditional and, so to speak, unavoidable, it is once in a while subject to lapses which nevertheless do not separate the two countries from their common objective.

Readjustments are always called for in accordance with the circumstantial convenience of one country or the other, but this does not mean turning one's back on a commitment which does not need to be spelled out because it is rooted in historic, geographic and political circumstances which are just as valid in moments of greatest difference in points of view. A recent remark by Foreign Minister Saraiva Guerreiro, who ironically told journalists that Brazil "would not play dirty with the United States," must be understood in this sense. Except for the need to match the language of a bad question, the remark was really a diplomatic appeal to make a distinction between the commitment referred to previously and the behavior of the two nations as dictated by their immediate interests.

U.S. policymakers understand that distinction very well, and they have made it an axiom of international relations, bluntly stated by John Foster Dulles when he said that the United States had no friends, only interests. This is a hyperbole which, nevertheless, represents the real foundation of any foreign policy at some level. But at another level, it invites us to think maturely about the extent of coexistence between the two countries which have specific responsibilities in the continent and which should be willing to review those responsibilities for their mutual benefit. The truth is that the United States has neglected that coexistence, inasmuch as it has drawn up "a policy for Latin America" on the basis of a model as restricted as that of the small Caribbean countries, without taking into account the complex reality of 20 independent states with aspirations to achieving a status as important politically as that of the European Community. The U.S. efforts to understand this reality have been purely circumstantial, because like Brazil, Argentina and Mexico have only been consulted at critical moments when their support was needed.

Some factors which the Americans seem not to understand have become evident with the worsening of the crisis in the East. Setting aside the rhetoric of "emergent power," Brazil has clearly gained a new weight in several categories in which the world outlook has changed. The failure of several Latin American attempts at integration--Punta del Este, the Treaty of Montevideo, the social and economic act of Rio de Janeiro, and the protocol of amendments to the OAS Charter signed in Buenos Aires in 1968--led us by way of the help-yourself road into a situation substantially different from that which existed when the possibilities of creating a common market were considered. Despite well-known setbacks, Brazil is today the largest soybean exporter, the largest cocoa producer and one of the largest markets for computers, in which Japan is strongly competing with the United States. Brazil diversified its economy, and its greatest economic partner is no longer the United States but the European Community, mainly the FRG and France. We never succeeded in satisfactorily solving tariff questions with the United States, and the deterioration in the terms of trade became practically irreversible. The tendency to pay higher prices for our purchases while receiving lower prices for our sales is getting worse.

Now that the map of the world has been redrawn, the cold war is gaining momentum and the oil crisis has seized the world, the time has come to review our relations objectively in line with directives more in tune with the seriousness of the situation. Our solidarity with the United States cannot be expressed through actions which would ruin our economy, as would be the case with the embargo on exports of our main products, or through ineffective and romantic actions such as boycotting the Olympic games. Moscow provokes a sense of revulsion in the democratic world in other ways. Tehran is the stage of actions which arouse the same sentiments of revulsion, but this, in the very midst of the crisis, does not inhibit us from receiving Iranian oil in exchange for our agricultural products.

This would not be the proper avenue toward a solid policy to accomodate the real interests of the two countries. Insofar as Brazil becomes stronger in the south, it will be contributing to an effective, better and more useful coexistence with the northern part of the continent. Brazil's positions, which perhaps conflict with the strategy of the United States, should be understood as differences between sovereign allies, and this should be done in the interest of the natural alliance between the two countries.

INFORMATION LACKING ON U.S. SPECIAL ENVOY'S AGENDA

PY261557 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 26 Jan 80 PY

[Text] Preceded by rumors of possible failure in Argentina, President Carter's special envoy, Gen Andrew Goodpaster, will begin his meetings in Brasilia tomorrow. So far, no meeting has been scheduled with the army minister, but Goodpaster might meet with the armed forces chief of staff, Gen Jose Ferraz da Rocha. Goodpaster's visit will take place in the midst of a total lack of information concerning his contacts and itinerary. For example, yesterday afternoon Itamaraty still did not know who was going to welcome the visitor at the airport. The current agenda has only two meetings scheduled so far: one with Minister Saraiva Guerreiro on Monday morning, and another with President Figueiredo in the afternoon of the same day. This does not mean that Goodpaster will not make contact with other Brazilian authorities.

CACEX WARNS OF DANGER OF DEPENDENCE ON ARAB OIL

PY261604 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 26 Jan 80 PY

[Text] Brasilia--The Foreign Trade Department [CACEX] of the Banco do Brasil has warned that Brazil is currently vulnerable to foreign pressures. A 15-page paper reportedly published by CACEX warns that Brazil's dependence on Arab oil makes it politically vulnerable to pressures or demands from abroad. According to the CACEX report, the swift growth of the nation's debt will place the country in a vulnerable position and leave it open to demands from the International Monetary Fund. This will make it subject to pressures from the developed countries resulting from the decline in its liquidity rate.

This report was prepared after the issuance of the December economic measures, and it suggests a number of changes in these measures. The report states that there is absolutely no way to balance trade by just increasing exports. The forecast for this year's trade is equally pessimistic: an estimated deficit of between $5 and 9 billion. It is worth recalling that former Finance Minister Karlos Reischbieter made similar forecasts, which precipitated his dismissal.

The newspaper does not identify its sources and limits itself to stating that its reports have been confirmed.

Meanwhile, a mobilization took place in Comayagua over the weekend because Jaime Andara, a coffee grower, had been kidnaped. A $50,000 ransom was paid for his release but the police captured the kidnapers.

NICARAGUA

OFFICIAL REPORTS COFFEE SALES TO USSR, HARVEST ESTIMATE

PA262242 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 0300 GMT 26 Jan 80 PA

[Text] The Soviet Union has formalized its first coffee purchase from Nicaragua. It totals 500 tons, or 11,000 quintals. The sale was arranged between a Soviet commercial delegation that arrived here last week and the Nicaraguan Coffee Enterprise [ENCAFE] under the Interior Ministry.

ENCAFE's Jose Antonio Baltodano reported yesterday that the coffee was bought at an average price of $170 per quintal, for a total of $2 million. Soviet yearly consumption of coffee totals 50,000 tons. The ENCAFE official said coffee samples have been sent to Bulgaria, Romania and Poland while 1,500 tons were sold to the GDR the last time around.

Nicaragua expects to sell coffee to those international markets again this year although coffee prices have been decreasing in the past few days. In sales reported by Colombia and Brazil, the price of coffee has dropped $20 per quintal.

Nicaragua also sold 20,000 quintals of coffee to Spain early this year. Export production this time has been estimated at 1 million quintals, 200,000 less than earlier estimates. Work force problems, the appearance of coffee rust in the Pacific area and other problems related to the civil war last year caused the lower estimates.

INDUSTRY MINISTER CLARIFIES HIS MINISTRY'S WORK PROGRAM

PA270138 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1800 GMT 26 Jan 80 PA

[Excerpts] Companeros Fernando Guzman and Ernesto Leal, industry minister and deputy minister-director of the People's Industrial Corporation (COIP), respectively, discussed the objectives and functions of that new ministry this morning. Their news conference also dealt with the Industry Ministry's participation in COIP's 1980 economic reactivation plan.

According to Companero Industry Minister Fernando Guzman, the industrial reactivation plan is clear, well-defined and dynamic and provides orientation. It was drafted in coordination with the Planning Ministry and is aimed at real objectives, such as increasing production in the areas of medicines, food, clothing and shoes. It will thus guarantee the people's welfare and the effective value of the Nicaraguan people's real salary. Following are the minister's statements:

[Begin Guzman recording] [In progress] ...Planning Ministry, as the general director and coordinator of the entire economic reactivation and development plan. Our major concern in these first few months will be to guarantee the implementation of the 1980 industrial reactivation plan, which also covers 1981.

URIBE URGES PEACEFUL SOLUTION TO NICARAGUAN DISPUTE

PA282358 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1724 GMT 28 Jan 80 PA

[Text] Cali, Colombia, 28 Jan (EFE)--Colombian Foreign Minister Diego Uribe Vargas said here today that the International Court at The Hague could be one avenue for solving the dispute with Nicaragua, but it is not the only one. "The International Court at The Hague is one of the avenues, but of course it is not the only one. The important thing is to reaffirm Colombia's firm determination to coexist with all its friends and neighbors," the foreign minister said. Uribe Vargas said that Colombia greatly admires Nicaragua's people and government "and for this reason I believe that any controversy should be resolved in a friendly manner, within the framework of international law."

The foreign minister noted that Colombia signed a treaty with Nicaragua in 1928 which defined the maritime limits as well as Colombian and Nicaraguan sovereignty, with Colombia having jurisdiction over San Andres and Providencia and Nicaragua over Mosquito. Therefore, he said, "I believe there is an eminently valid rule of law," but Colombia does not maintain an attitude of confrontation, but rather a friendly attitude toward Nicaragua and all its neighbors because it believes in peaceful solutions.

Last year, Nicaragua disputed Colombia's jurisdiction over the islands of San Andres and Providence and the Roncador, Quitasueno and Serrano cays in the Caribbean Sea, a situation which has already caused some bad feeling between the two countries.

U.S. Position Sought

PA290321 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 2330 GMT 28 Jan 80 PA

[Text] Colombia today instructed Virgilio Barco Vargas, its ambassador in Washington, to try to learn the U.S. Government's position regarding Nicaragua's claims to sovereignty of the Roncador, Quitasueno and Serrano cays and Providencia and San Andres islands. In Foreign Ministry circles it was learned that the U.S. statement to the effect that this dispute could be settled through juridical intervention fell on high Colombian Government circles like a jug of cold water. A Foreign Ministry spokesman emphatically told this station that Colombia cannot accept this position because it would be tantamount to placing doubts on Colombia's sovereignty to the islands. Ambassador Barco Vargas will try to learn in the coming hours exactly what the U.S. State Department thinks in relation to this.

Advisory Board To Meet

PA290323 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 2330 GMT 28 Jan 80 PA

[Text] The Foreign Affairs Advisory Committee will reportedly be convoked in the coming hours to analyze the new situation stemming from Nicaragua's claims to sovereignty over three cays in the Caribbean Sea which Colombia has had in its possession since 1928. It was learned that the problem in convoking the advisory board involves the vast differences of opinion among its members, a circumstance which makes the government fear that it will not be possible to reach a consensus within the board on the position that Colombia must adopt. However, this station learned that the Foreign Ministry has carefully begun holding consultations with friendly governments of the continent to learn other opinions on this problem.

OLYMPIC COMMITTEE OPPOSES BOYCOTT OF MOSCOW GAMES

PA290210 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0014 GMT 29 Jan 80 PA

[Text] Guayaquil, Ecuador, 28 Jan (EFE)--The Ecuadorean Olympic Committee (COE) confirmed here today its objection to the boycott of the upcoming Moscow Olympic games called by the United States.

The COE statement reads that "the basic principle of sports is its total independence from political matters. Therefore, we reject any blackmail attempt which seeks to use this noble activity of youth as an element of pressure against any peoples of the world.

"The campaign to boycott the Moscow Olympic games constitutes an attack on the existence of one of the few instruments open to youth to reaffirm their love, faith and contribution to universal peace," the COE states.

Finally, it reaffirms its support of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) and supports the participation of all athletes of the world in the Moscow Olympic games.

GOVERNMENT ACCUSES MPD OF PROMOTING UNREST

PA281810 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1230 GMT 28 Jan 80 PA

[Text] Fausto Molina, secretary general of public information, emphatically accused the Democratic Popular Movement [MPD] of promoting the state of unrest which led to last week's violent incidents.

He made this statement during a Channel 4 Television program conducted by newsman Patricio Quevedo. Tunguragua representative Galo Pico Mantilla and Gonzalo Almeyda Urrutia, former secretary general of the administration and of Congress, also participated in this program.

They agreed that the current unrest has political and economic roots. Almeyda Urrutia said some leaders were taking advantage of youths who were undergoing an identity crisis.

On the other hand, Pico Mantilla said the situation was inherited from the military dictatorship. He added, however, that the legislative and executive branches were also to blame for the situation because of measures they have approved increasing the cost of living.

LONGSHOREMEN STAGE PROTEST IN FRONT OF SOVIET SHIP

PA272152 Paris AFP in Spanish 1556 GMT 27 Jan 80 PA

[Text] Guayaquil, Ecuador, 27 Jan (AFP)--Members of the National Federation of Maritime and Port Workers [FEMAPOR] have staged a demonstration in front of a Soviet ship in Guayaquil port to protest the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan.

The FEMAPOR, which declared a boycott a few days ago on all Soviet ships that arrive at the port, organized a march in front of the Soviet ship, Aleksandr Puskin, which arrived at the port on Saturday.

BRIEFS

AGREEMENT WITH MEXICO--Mexico and Ecuador have signed a cooperation agreement in the field of social security, mainly involving the exchange of technicians and experience. [Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1230 GMT 27 Jan 80 PA]

MONTSERRAT SATISFIED WITH VENEZUELA'S CARIBBEAN POLICY

PA250043 Caracas VENPRES in Spanish 1452 GMT 24 Jan 80 PA

[Text] Caracas, 23 (VENPRES)--Montserrat Prime Minister John Osborne said today that his government is very happy with Venezuela's stand toward the Caribbean islands and hopes this policy will continue. Osborne said that even though no agreement has been signed between the two governments, he expects Venezuela to provide cooperation in education, health, culture, sports and energy. He made the statement during a visit to Congress, where he met Senate President Godofredo Gonzalez and Carlos Canache Mata, president of the Chamber of Deputies.

The prime minister was accompanied by Communications and Labor Minister J.B. Chalmers, Agriculture and Housing Minister F.A. Margelson and Congressmen K.A. Casell, J.E. Ryan, Erick Kelsech and Edwards. [as received] Osborne thanked the president of the Congress for the Venezuelan Government's invitation and stated his desire to strengthen bilateral ties of frienship and cooperation.

ALGERIA'S BEN YAHIA HEADS ARAB LEAGUE DELEGATION

PA272148 Caracas VENPRES in Spanish 0002 GMT 26 Jan 80 PA

[Text] Caracas, 25 Jan (VENPRES)--Algerian Foreign Minister Mohamed Seddik Ben Yahia, who heads the Arab League delegation, said at the Foreign Ministry today that "the Arab world awaits with interest the visit of President Luis Herrera Campins," the Venezuelan Foreign Ministry revealed. "There are traditions of friendship and solidarity between Latin America and the Arab world, which is aware of the important role of Venezuela in Latin America," he said in reply to a question on whether the trip of the Venezuelan chief of state is advisable in view of the explosive situation existing in the Middle East. He added that "the Algerian people and their leaders as well as the other Arab countries eagerly await the visit of the president of Venezuela, who will be greeted with warm affection and fraternity."

Seddik Ben Yahia said, "I have been appointed chief of a delegation in the name of the chiefs of state and government who held a special meeting in Tunisia in December to discuss the Middle East situation." He said, "I come as head of this delegation and I represent several Arab nations in explaining to President Herrera Campins and the Venezuelan polticial leaders our unanimity and solidarity on the problems of the Middle East."

Concerning the implications and effects of the invasion of the Soviet Union in the Middle East, he noted that "the Middle East and the rest of Asia are living in a most difficult and delicate situation, and it is truly posing a problem in the relations between the superpowers and the developing nations." He emphasized that "in more precise terms, the Middle East is facing an emergency situation, that of finding a just and peaceful solution which may guarantee the Palestinian people the full recovery of their legitimate rights in their fatherland."

Asked if Algeria believed it is advisable to hold an OPEC meeting in view of the prices on the international oil market, Seddik Ben Yahia replied that "I am the spokesman of all Arab nations; therefore I will speak in their name and not just for Algeria."

After his statements, he met with Venezuelan Foreign Minister Jose Alberto Zambrano Velasco, who talked with him prior to the luncheon offered by the Foreign Ministry. The Algerian foreign minister will remain here until 1700 Sunday.

CONATO STRIKE TERMED '80-PERCENT EFFECTIVE'

Business Activity Reduced

PA282308 Panama City Circuito RPC-TV in Spanish 1730 GMT 28 Jan 80 PA

[By Migdalia Fuentes]

[Text] Today the capital's productive capacity was reduced, but not paralyzed, due to the start of the strike called by the National Council of Workers [CONATO] in demand of the derogation of Law 95. Early this morning the bus stops were filled with persons who could not get to work due to lack of transportation. Many taxis were not in service. A National Guard bus was seen picking up people at the bus stop at the social security clinics on the Transisthmian Highway.

At 1000, however, although activities were not normal in the city, the great majority of stores and a large number of companies kept their doors opened. The store owners, as is the practice under such circumstances, kept their security grills in place. There were no students seen on the streets and some school buses failed to pick up students this morning. National Guardsmen could be seen on the streets wearing their regular uniforms.

Spokesmen of the Chamber of Commerce, although refusing to make any statements, indicated that measures were being taken to establish the number of workers absent today in the business activities as a result of the lack of transportation. They explained that the chamber had asked the businessmen not to punish those employees who had arrived late to work due to lack of transportation.

CONATO Claims Massive Support

PA282309 Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 28 Jan 80 PA

[Text] The general strike called by the National Council of Workers [CONATO] has been 80-percent effective. Today at mid-morning the strike was 80-percent effective, CONATO spokesmen told the national broadcasting service and expressed their satisfaction at the support given by the Panamanian working classes at the national level.

Rolando Ordonez of the Isthmian Workers Central said: For us the strike has been a complete success. Early today we received reports from the central provinces, Chiriqui, Colon and labor organizations in Panama. According to these reports 75 percent of the working classes, at the national level, are supporting the strike. We want to thank the transport companeros, both bus and taxi drivers who have supported our cause, which is the cause of all the Panamanian working class and not only a sector. We expect that the transport companeros and banana workers will also support us tomorrow as they did today.

CONATO Strike 'Failure'

PA282310 Panama City Circuito RPC-TV in Spanish 1730 GMT 28 Jan 80 PA

[Text] The strike called by the National Council of Workers (CONATO) has been a failure up to midday today. In Chiriqui Province, with the exception of the banana sector, commercial and industrial activities have continued normally, along with transportation activities. The president of the Chamber of Commerce of Chiriqui, Ricardo Perez, told RPC that work activities continue as normal in David. In Puerto Armuelles, only the Chiriqui Land Company closed operations as the banana workers union joined the strike. Commerce, however, continues open in Puerto Armuelles as well as private transportation activities.

The strike has been more effective in the city of Colon, where strike supporters forced the closing of large organizations such as the Free Zone and the Panama Refinery, setting up picket lines to prevent the entry of workers as they appeared for work this morning. Daniel Delgado, administrative secretary of the Chamber of Commerce and Industries of Colon, described the action as involuntary stoppage. Commerce in the city of Colon is 75-percent closed. The owners and workers are at the doors of the establishments, however, ready to open once they obtain protection from the authorities or when the menace of the strike supporters disappears.

The strike supporters also forced the Panama-Colon bus line to stop operations. This morning, they stopped the buses carrying workers to the piers and other canal area installations on the Atlantic sector, threatening to stone the vehicles. Many workers continued to work on foot.

Public offices are in full operation throughout the country. The public services offered by the state's autonomous entities have continued normally, such as the aqueduct and trash collection by the National Institute of Aqueducts and Sewers [IDAAN], telephones by the National Telecommunications Institute and electricity by the Institute of Hydraulic Resources and Electrification. IDAAN released a communique at 1100 this morning announcing that water supplies are normal throughout the republic, thus denying false reports released by some radio stations.

NBC CORRESPONDENT EXPELLED BY AUTHORITIES

PA281918 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1859 GMT 28 Jan 80 PA

[Text] Panama City, 28 Jan (ACAN-EFE)--U.S. correspondent Sally Chardy, of the NBC Radio and Television Network, has been expelled from Panama City by the authorities, an official source told ACAN-EFE today. The Panamanian Government has not revealed the reason for the expulsion. It promised, however, to issue an official communique on the matter later today.

According to information obtained at noon today by the local "Televisora Nacional" station, Chardy released information accredited to the Panamanian chief of state, Aristides Royo, indicating that the shah of Iran was being held in Panama. The Panamanian president, according to the local television station, denied having released that information to journalist Chardy, who left for the United States yesterday.

Reasons Cited

PA282303 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2226 GMT 28 Jan 80 PA

[Text] Panama City, 28 Jan (ACAN-EFE)--U.S. newswoman Sally Chardy, of the NBC Radio and Television Network, has been expelled from Panama by the country's authorities in accordance with a resolution issued today by the presidency's information office. According to the document, newswoman Chardy, who left yesterday for the United States, has been deported "because in her role as a foreign correspondent she sent reports abroad which affect the security of the Panamanian state. Chardy's reports attributed to Panamanian President Aristides Royo the correspondent's subjective statements and conclusions, which did not conform to the truth," the resolution states.

JAPANESE DELEGATION ARRIVES FOR CANAL STUDIES

OW291019 Tokyo KYODO in English 0952 GMT 29 Jan 80 OW

[Text] Panama City, Jan 29 KYODO--A 13-member Japanese delegation arrived here late Monday from New York as local newspapers played up their hope that its talks with President Aristides Royo and other Panamanian officials might see major progress made toward construction of a new sea-level canal across the isthmus.

The group, led by President Shigeo Nagano of the Japan Chamber of Commerce and Industry, will visit a possible route of the projected canal, besides talking with government officials and businessmen. Alaska Democratic Senator Mike Gravel, an ardent advocate of a second Panama Canal, accompanied the Japanese study team, which includes bankers and businessmen. One of its members, upon arriving, said rather modestly, "We're here just to probe whether the project is feasible at all."

The route to be inspected by Nagano's team runs from Puerto Camito on the Pacific and Lagarto on the Atlantic with the western section of Lake Gatun in between. The 58-kilometer overland section of the new canal would be 200 meters wide. The gap between the sea levels in the Pacific and Atlantic is six meters during the maximum hours of the day, but studies conducted so far have proved this poses no navigational problem.

The sea-level canal will forgo the time-consuming locks used in the present canal to raise ships up the slight elevation change across the narrow land mass. It will be designed to accommodate supertankers of up to 500,000 tons, compared with ships of up to 50,000 tons that can go through the present canal.

Whether construction can be started depends on the outcome of future feasibility studies including the one to be made by the Japanese team. Estimates on total costs, released so far, vary from $8.3 billion to $15 billion. One estimate has put the period of construction at 10 years.

According to Japanese members, problems involved in the second canal project are financing, the economic aspects of the canal, enviromental implications and cooperation from the United States. They said the key to financial problems would be how much the Americans and Europeans are ready to put up. The canal would be owned by Panama, but the way it is operated would affect the readiness of other countries to invest in the project, they said. In regard to economic aspects, one major problem is whether future shipping demand will be large enough to pay for the costs.

But above all, the Japanese said, much depends on whether the United States is ready to take on full participation in the scheme. U.S. consent on the second canal is necessary under provisions of its Panama Canal agreement with the Panamanian Government.

EL SALVADOR

COLUMNIST VIEWS PRESENT ROLE OF ARMED FORCES

PA261741 San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish 25 Jan 80 pp 36, 56 PA

[Commentary by "Josefo," pen name of Guillermo B. Menjivar]

[Excerpts] In this poor imitation of a civil war which we are experiencing in El Salvador, no one wants to listen any longer to the serene voice of reason or the force of logical argument. Documented presentations have no value, nor do historical quotes, illustrious thoughts, properly interpreted words of the Gospel or generally advisable political reasoning. There prevails only rowdy shouting, brutal threats or open imposition from positions of power.

Well then, we ask, what is the aim of those high-volumed shouts? Who are they trying to convince? To whom are they addressed? Undoubtedly, all this shouting does not contain any messages or proposals for the solution of the nation's problems. Their only purpose is to intimidate.

The taking of power by the extreme leftists, if the present political crisis continues, will be the epilog of the "underdeveloped revolution" which has installed itself in power since Romero's fall. There have been inefficient and incompetent public officials like Ungo and Mayorga Quiros (may they rest in political peace), directed by the foreign Jesuits of the Central American Catholic University, with the blessing of the prelate and advised by (Sol Castellano), who is well-known and has been around a long time. These people have created, with their destructive manias, the indispensable framework and climate for the extreme leftist forces to develop with great vigor. Those forces now unhesitatingly declare at the top of their voices that they are ready to take power and to toss overboard the present members of government, whom they consider to be traitors that have sold out to U.S. imperialism.

However, above all, the greatest historical crime of these opportunists is that of having used the armed forces for the so-called revolutionary political schemes which were prepared with haste and without much thought in the few hours following the barracks coup which ousted President Romero. These schemes have been presented to the country as the genuine opinion of the younger military officers.

Being civilians, we don't know how one forms or establishes the opinion of that sector of the army, known as the young military officers, and whether this opinion is shared by the older officers in active or inactive service.

In any case, what should concern us is that the army has been made to participate in uncertain events at a political crossroads with all its attendant risks, and has been separated from its true function as an institution. This function is outlined in the Constitution of the republic, which every official upon receiving his military commission swears to defend and uphold, as have all the officials of the present government, including the members of the junta.

So far, what has the army gained by taking up a political cause which, by its very nature, is controversial? Whose affection has it won? If civil war were to really be unleashed--God forbid--by the grace of all these petty politicians who have only managed to strengthen and polarize conflicting positions, who would the army fight against and who would it defend? The Christian Democratic Party because it is the official party, thereby taking Duarte to the presidency? The extreme left which seeks to replace the army with a people's militia? The high-ranking bourgeoisie? The unruly mobs incited to destructive violence? In other words, who would it be for and who would it be against?

The army of yesterday, of today, and forever should form alliances only with the true people, represented by all those good citizens who dearly love their fatherland, who enhance it with their work, who aspire to live in peace, justice and freedom and who contribute with their culture, economic means and labor without class distinctions or class hatred to the development of the country and its institutions for the benefit of all.

CHAVEZ MENA CRITICIZES SOVIET INVASION, OLYMPICS BOYCOTT

PA251946 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1647 GMT 23 Jan 80 PA

[Text] San Salvador, 23 Jan (ACAN-EFE)--Fidel Chavez Mena, the new Salvadoran foreign minister, told journalists Wednesday that he personally condemns the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan because he considers it the crudest form of power in a foreign nation. He also condemned the occupation of the U.S. Embassy in Iran because he considers it a violation of international law and the principle of extraterritoriality. He also criticized the U.S. boycott of the Moscow Olympics.

On Central America, Chavez Mena said he will pay a courtesy visit to the different foreign ministers to discuss general aspects. He made no reference to the Honduran-Salvadoran situation which arose from a 100-hour war between the armies of the two countries in 1969.

LABOR LEADERS CLAIM ECONOMY LOSING $100 MILLION DAILY

PA271449 San Salvador EL INDEPENDIENTE in Spanish 25 Jan 80 pp 1, 2, 15 PA

[Text] There is panic in the country's economic sector. The country is losing $100 million daily. Some 150,000 workers are idle, paralyzing the national economy. The workers of over 80 concerns began a 3-day strike on 24 January. The national strike is being promoted by the United Popular Action Front [FAPU], the People's Revolutionary Bloc, the Nationalist Democratic Union, the Salvadoran Workers National Union Federation [FENASTRAS], the United Confederation of Salvadoran Workers [CUTS] and other popular organization unions members of the revolutionary mass coordinator.

"This is not the time to make statements or condemn actions of the junta," FENASTRAS spokesmen emphasized. "This is the time for great decisions," they stressed, saying that victory will be attained by making decisions into facts. The purpose of the strike, the organizers explained, is to deal big capital an economic blow. "This strike is an effective defensive mechanism," the union leaders said. The purpose of the 3-day national strike is to show the capitalists who the real producers of wealth are and who the legitimate owners are, some union leaders said.

According to reports, the workers warn that if the security corps and the oligarchy do not yield, they will start another general strike, but this time it will be accompanied by a popular rebellion. The CUTS has gone on strike their spokesman said. The CUTS includes over 60 unions, many of which have ceased their activities.

The Jose Guillermo Rivas National Unions Federation also announced yesterday that several of its unions are on strike. The purpose of the national strike is to pressure the government junta into dismissing Defense Minister Jose Guillermo Garcia, Deputy Secretary Nicolas Carranza, National Guard Director Colonel Medrano, Major Dawison and other officers. The strike organizers demand that the junta begin criminal proceedings against the above-mentioned officers because they are responsible for the 22 January repression, according to statements made to EL INDEPENDIENTE by the FAPU secretary general.

The strikers also have condemned the military cordon placed around the National University which violated the national autonomy guaranteed by the Constitution.

They also have repudiated the shameful national radio network established to curtail the peoples right to freedom of expression. More specifically, this radio network tried to suppress news and comments on the massacre of the Salvadoran people on 22 January.

The labor leaders have made derogatory remarks about the government junta because, according to them, the new rulers had said that the radio stations went into a network to keep the right from attacking popular organizations. The strike organizers said the junta has said the radio network prevented the airing of slogans and commentaries drafted by the extreme right against popular organizations. The labor leaders do not believe the radio network kept the extreme right from attacking the 50,000 persons who had sought asylum at the university.

PDC COMMUNIQUE CHARGES RIGHTIST REPRESSION

PA251655 San Salvador EL MUNDO in Spanish 23 Jan 80 p 15 PA

[Paid advertisement by the Christian Democratic Party: "The Repression of the Right; From Upholding of Past Regimes to Subversion of a Democratic Revolutionary Government"]

[Excerpts] Repression: Who Promotes It

What has been happening are not isolated incidents. They are the developments of a strategy conceived to return us to the times of Molina and Romero. In the past, the oligarchic right used repression to uphold their regimes of oppression and dictatorship. Today, it uses it to make the popular and antioligarchic program adopted by a democratic revolutionary government fail.

In the past the right found in the army and the security corps the instrument for keeping people subjugated. Now the armed forces have broken with the oligarchy and declared themselves in favor of popular aspirations. The oligarchic right is, therefore, reactivating its terrorist organizations, the Nationalist Democratic Organization, the White Warriors Union and the White Hand, and continuing to manipulate some chiefs, officers and troops so that with the aid of certain local commanders and repression, structural changes will be prevented.

The information our party has, which the public knows, is clear on this. Many officers of the armed forces, many members of the security corps, many local commanders have expressed their wish to serve the people and to collaborate in and foster the program of structural changes. At the same time, however, there are still chiefs, officers, members of the security corps and local commanders who continue to serve antipopular interests, who are opposed to the government's program and who continue antirevolutionary and repressive conduct.

The Objectives of Rightist Strategy

From what we have pointed out, it is evident that the policy of repression and violence which the oligarchic right is implementing seeks to fulfill several objectives.

1. It is seeking to create a negative image of the present government among the people and the international community so that it will be unable to implement its democratic program of popular participation.

2. It is attempting to silence by assassination and threats all those persons belonging to the political parties and organizations fighting for changes.

3. It is seeking to create a climate of fear and uncertainty among the population that will prevent the process of structural changes and generate favorable conditions for retaking power.

The right, then, continues its relentless war against the people. All this repression and violence has the final purpose of preventing structural changes, that is to abort the democratic revolution already in progress and permit the passing of the political, economic and social power from the oligarchy to the people.

The Christian Democratic Party [PDC] In the Face of These Facts

The PDC, in the face of the present wave of repressive events, expresses its deep concern and total rejection and condemns the bloodshed which this criminal right is carrying out against so many men, women and children, whose only crime it is to want to transform the present unjust structures.

The PDC, since its founding, has struggled for the effectiveness of human rights. In the past, we fought from the opposition. Now, we are doing it from the government.

Our position is the same: against repression and in favor of human rights and structural changes in the nation.

In denouncing these facts, the PDC demands that the local commander, Arturo Iglesias, and the other coauthors of the massacre in the town of Nueva China Mejita be tried by common courts. We know that this person has already been captured and we demand that the rigors of the law be applied to him.

For social justice within a regime of authentic democracy, PDC.

NEW ANTICOMMUNIST ORGANIZATION CREATED

PA251459 San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish 24 Jan 80 p 40 PA

[Text] In a letter to LA PRENSA GRAFICA, extremists report the creation of the Organization for Liberation from Communism [Organizacion para la Liberacion del Comunismo--OLC], stating that its first action has been against the Peoples Revolutionary Bloc [BPR], in whose office a bomb was detonated.

In addition to the letter, they sent a communique indicating the following points:

Communists unite because your death is near. Hunger, unemployment, disease, anguish and the suffering of the Salvadoran people are little by little destroying the republic. We can no longer live in hamlets, cantons, neighborhoods and colonies.

If we were only half alive under the self-expatriated oligarchs, the communists and terrorists of the BPR, the 28 February Peoples Leagues, the CCPL [not further identified], the ULTECECA [not further identified], the UTC [not further identified], national resistance [as published], the Revolutionary Peoples Army, the Armed Forces of National Resistance, the United Popular Action Front, the National Democratic Union, the National Revolutionary Movement and the illegal Communist Party are finishing us off.

For you, assasins of the communist world, the end justifies the means, and your ends and objectives are neither social justice nor the well-being of the majorities, but to quench the insatiable thirst for power of the communist bear, which manipulates you from Cuba, the land without liberty, or from Russia, the laboratory of death and destruction.

To satisfy the Soviets, you treacherously do not care that all our people are suffering because you do not bring peace, only war. Gentlemen of the communist world: Step up your final inaurrection because your death is near.

Today, 20 January, we celebrate the beginning of the true revolution that is going to definitely liberate us from the death of our fatherland, our women and children.

Gentlemen of the communist world: Begin to count your hours because with your extermination, we are going to eradicate from our country vandalism, death, hunger, disease and the unemployment that is filling us with hunger and destroying us.

This is neither a warning nor a signal. It is the beginning of the execution of the communist and terrorist hordes which have destroyed our people.

Working Salvadorans, honest Salvadorans, Salvadorans seeking justice and not the destruction of your country: Fight to the death against communism and terrorism. To death with terrorism, to death with communism.

Salvadorans: Fight terrorism. Salvadorans: Fight Salvadoran communism.

For a free and sovereign fatherland, OLC.

Communiques Issued

PA270134 San Salvador Radio Cadena Sonora in Spanish 1500 GMT 23 Jan 80 PA

[Text] About an hour ago our studios received two communiques from the Organization for Liberation from Communism [OLC]. Among other things the group says:

We are distributing this communique to all media which follow an ethical line in the present events in the history of our country. Our organization was born with a fighting spirit created by the protest against the economic and social disaster existing in our country. We are not with the left or the right but with the desire to impose the justice so urgently needed by our people.

We sincerely believe the worst enemies of our country are the communists and their followers. Our war is against them and we are determined if need be to sacrifice our lives. Ideas are opposed with ideas. Now the communists want war and war they shall have. We shall destroy the Marxist-Leninist movement in El Salvador. We do this convinced that it is the best thing we can offer our country, and may history judge us.

We shall communicate with you again in the near future. [Signed] Central Command of the Organization for Liberation from Communism.

Another communique says: Communists, unite because your death is near. The communique attacks a minority sector of the Catholic Church which has served as tools for the atheist and murderous Communist Party and their branches, the BPR, FPL, FAPU, [name indistinct], LNR.

The communique says: How can you make dangerous statements without investigating the facts? How is it possible that a radio station calling itself Catholic has served to divide Salvadoran society even more, increasing the climate of hatred, violence, bloodshed and death?

They attack the Communist Party and blame it for the violence existing in the country and say: for a free and sovereign country. Central Command of the OLC. They say Christ never spoke of politics--he spoke of love. He never spoke of guerrillas--he spoke of love. He never spoke of repression and torture--he spoke of our love for our fellow men.

HONDURAS

PRESS COMMENTS ON BOWDLER'S 'MYSTERY' VISIT

PA240514 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0213 GMT 24 Jan 80 PA

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 23 Jan (ACAN-EFE)--The Honduran press today terms "enigmatic" the unexpected 2-hour visit that William Bowdler, assistant secretary of state for inter-American affairs, made yesterday.

According to the newspaper EL TIEMPO, "Bowdler yesterday reminded the Honduran military junta that each country's economic and social development must be prompted in a peaceful and democratic climate."

For its part, the newspaper EL HERALDO rhetorically asks: Why did Bowdler come yesterday? He affirmed he had come to discuss vital issues, but he did not say which. Furthermore, Carter's special envoy was contemptuous toward the press, the paper adds.

The newspaper LA TRIBUNA also wonders about the reason for Bowdler's visit to the Honduran military junta, noting that the U.S. official has been directly contacting the Central American rulers, but has been very careful not to disclose the fundamental aspects of his "intriguing" mission.

The newspaper LA PRENSA notes "Bowdler's new mystery meeting with the military junta" and recalls that every time this U.S. diplomat has moved through Central America it has been with some premeditated purpose, which has led to important political changes.

CIVILIANS, MILITARY UNITS REPORTEDLY CLASH

PA282352 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1604 GMT 28 Jan 80 PA

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 28 Jan (ACAN-EFE)--The local newspaper EL HERALDO today reports on an armed confrontation between armed civilians and military units over the past 24 hours in Comayagua Department in central Honduras.

According to the newspaper these reports have been "confirmed" but there are no details on any casualties. It was said that the incident prompted a police mobilization throughout Comayagua.

"Unofficial reports indicated that the armed clash occurred between leftists and military forces. However, this has not been confirmed," EL HERALDO reports.

The newspaper also says that "this incident was the only one registered in the country," omitting reports on simultaneous clashes in Macuelizo, in Santa Barbara Department, and Mosquitia, in eastern Honduras.

NUCLEAR AGREEMENT SIGNED WITH IRAQ

PY251717 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 25 Jan 80 PY

[Text] Brazil and Iraq have signed an agreement on the peaceful use of nuclear energy. The agreement provides for cooperation in appraising reserves and prospecting, exploiting and benefiting from uranium. It also provides for the supply of natural and slightly enriched uranium to feed the reactors, and for exchanging experience and the training of human resources.

LABOR, STUDENT LEADERS, POLITICIANS TO VISIT PLO CAMPS

PY252317 Porto Alegre Radio Guaiba in Portuguese 2150 GMT 25 Jan 80 PY

[Text] Brasilia--A 20-member delegation of Brazilian labor and student leaders and politicians will visit several Palestinian camps in southern Libya in March at the invitation of the Brazilian PLO office. The delegation will also be received by the PLO executive committee and meet with members of Yasir 'Arafat's organization.

SENEGALESE FOREIGN MINISTER CONDEMNS INTERVENTION IN AFRICA

PY282257 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 26 Jan 80 p 5 PY

[Text] Brasilia--Senegal condemns any type of intervention which could in turn cause any type of destabilization or harm to the African equilibrium, and it defends that continent's independence and wants it to be respected. This remark was made by the Senegalese foreign minister, Moustapha Niasse, during an interview that he granted last night at the Itamaraty Palace. He said, however, that his country avoids "specific details of problems" [particularizar problemas]. This is why he did not directly answer a question which included two aspects: whether the presence of Cuban troops in Africa causes any type of concern for Senegal and whether he believed that the factors that had recommended and justified the presence of those troops had already been eliminated. Answering another question, the foreign minister recalled that in an initial decision, the African countries had opposed the creation of a continental military force. He said that this matter would be studied again in July in Liberia.

The final act of the meeting of the mixed Brazilian-Senegalese commission, held over 2 days in Brasilia, indicates that the two parties will study the possibilities of a Brazilian mission visiting Dakar as a followup to the understanding reached on the granting of a line of credit to that African country. The line of credit, amounting to $12.9 million, will be signed between the Bank of Brasil and the Senegalese Government. Brazil has offered the Dakar government research services in minerals and remote sensing equipment.

MEXICAN NAVY INTERESTED IN PURCHASING CORVETTES

PY282243 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 25 Jan 80 p 5 PY

[Excerpt] Rio de Janeiro--In Rio de Janeiro yesterday, the secretary of the Mexican Navy, Adm Ricardo Chazaro Lara, confirmed his country's interest in purchasing 15 Brazilian corvettes and said that the only thing now lacking is the Mexican president's authorization. The purchase order, if implemented, must provide for the participation of Mexican technicians, which would enable that country to "build another 25 vessels with its own technology," the admiral stressed. The request that has been submitted to President Lopez Portillo is aimed at the patrolling of Mexican waters within the 200-mile limit. According to Chazaro's estimates, the cost of each corvette will be approximately $30 million.

The plan includes some general guidelines we will discuss briefly, but in addition we must begin laying the groundwork for the creation of a new industry, a new industrial sector that responds to our needs and to the strengthening of our economy, a new economy and an autonomous, independent economy geared toward the satisfaction of the needs of our large majorities and toward the strengthening of all aspects of our development.

In order to carry out this task, we have created the Industrial Planning Directorate at the Industry Ministry. The divisions of this directorate will be responsible for the various industrial branches. Planning will be done on the basis of the industrial sector's division into branches. It will no longer be a jumble of things in general. Instead, we will have to explain and diagnose each branch's situation, including private industry, the people's industry and small industry. On the basis of this analysis and diagnosis we will outline development programs for each branch, following at all times the basic orientations of the 1980 plan.

At the ministry we have also created a technological directorate. It will be mainly concerned with reporting on and aiding industrial development from the standpoint of industrial technology. It will be particularly concerned with the search for new independent technology--as technology has been one of the traditional mechanisms for the exploitation of our economy--with the strengthening of applied technology and with new [word indistinct], including research or technological research (centers) or institutes.

In addition, we will have an information directorate, which will be in charge of all industrial data and specific situations. [end recording]

NUNEZ CONFIRMS INTENTION TO ESTABLISH 'MIXED ECONOMY'

PA281703 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2246 GMT 27 Jan 80 PA

[Text] Managua, 27 Jan (ACAN-EFE)--Comdr of the Revolution Carlos Nunez Tellez confirmed today that a "mixed economy" is being established in Nicaragua.

The Sandinist leader, who is perhaps the one most closely linked to the country's working and peasant masses because he is involved in organization programs, told ACAN-EFE that "the areas of the people's and private ownership are being combined in this mixed economy."

The people's assets consist of all the lands, businesses and other properties confiscated from the Somoza family and the most notorious representatives of "Somozism."

Nunez said efforts are being made to create a "spirit of national unity" and involve all Nicaraguans in the process. He admitted that the Nicaraguan bourgeoisie and private enterprise "will gain strength" by becoming involved in the economic reactivation plan. In this way Nunez answered the criticism from Marxist-Leninist elements who have said the bourgeoisie is currently developing strength in Nicaragua.

The commander of the revolution said this "strengthening" is definitely taking place but that historical evolution and experience indicate that "everybody has to participate" in the reactivation process if an economic "takeoff" and the goals for 1980 are to be attained.

The economic plan seeks to reduce the inflation rate to a level below the world inflation rate (reaching at least 15 percent). It also seeks to reduce the current unemployment rate of 34 percent to at least 19 percent by providing almost 100,000 jobs.

The young leader made the statements to ACAN-EFE at Government House shortly before addressing a crowd of representatives of Sandinist Defense Committees in Managua which expressed support for the government in connection with the closing on Wednesday of the Marxist-Leninist newspaper EL PUEBLO.

He said in the past the stronger economic groups that monopolized credit and banking activities distributed the loans among the most "recalcitrant" members of the bourgeoisie and the dictatorship's inner circle. Nunez added that it is true that the bourgeoisie is participating in the economic plan but it is also true that the large, medium-sized and small producers are also involved in this year's plan following the changes that have taken place.

He said the small producers, who were always neglected by the Somozist regime, are not only participating in production now but receiving incentives. Therefore, "maybe the bourgeoisie's participation means that that sector will grow stronger, but the small producers are also growing stronger," he said.

Nunez added that the interest of the government in getting "everybody" involved in the economic reactivation process "indicates--through the new conditions being established--the single pattern of conduct to be observed and accepted by everybody to attain our goals. Anyone violating this [code of] conduct must be condemned and politically buried," he said.

POLICE ADVISER DISCUSSES PLANS FOR JUDICIAL REFORM

PA281938 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 28 Jan 80 PA

[Text] The Nicaraguan Supreme Court and the Interior Ministry will completely reorganize the administration of justice under the name of Sandinist judicial reform. The first step to be taken will be the creation of emergency laws that permit effective crime control in the country. For this reason the Sandinist People's Police will be allowed to have police courts to solve small judicial problems. These courts will be empowered to convict criminals based on police evidence only and issue sentences for up to 1 year. Let us listen to national police adviser Adrian Meza Castellanos who will explain the police courts:

[Begin recording] We are conducting a study of the administration of justice in the country and have reached the conclusion that we cannot continue to use the system the Somozist dictatorship used to fight crime.

In addition to establishing the authority of police to issue sentences for up to 1 year, we are discussing the complete reorganization of the administration of justice in the country. We will say without fear that what we are really doing is promoting at all levels--at the Supreme Court, Interior Ministry and other levels--what we have termed the Sandinist judicial reform. We believe that the problem of justice in our country must be a priority. It consists of justice for the innocent and punishment for the guilty. For this reason, we have drafted certain projects and stated certain ideas which are being analyzed to see the best way in which we can start this reorganization.

The first step is the creation of emergency laws to allow [words indistinct] crime in the country. Some people believe that it can be started with the project you just mentioned--letting the police process certain criminals for [words indistinct]. Others believe that there is more to the problem than giving limited court powers to the police. We must try to solve the great problems pertaining to the administration of justice, such as those linked to the judicial bureaucracy.

We have been discussing this and will explain it to the Nicaraguans in detail at another opportunity. However, we want to stress that this problem is real. Right now I want to emphasize that there are many common criminals and we must solve this problem. We consequently believe that the best thing to do is for the revolutionary government to allow us to create police courts with the powers of a local court. This means the police courts will determine the crime and issue a report on it just as the local courts do. This idea is being analyzed as I was [words indistinct]. However, as I already said, this will not be all. We want the police, the judicial branch, the attorney general's office and so forth to discuss the problem much more thoroughly. We also want the universities to express their views on a new judicial reform based on the postulates of the Sandinist revolution, that is, a Sandinist judicial reform.

I have to answer your question in a general way because that is not the problem. The problem is that we need more laws, a better reorganization of the courts, more legal education at the highest level and more juridical conciliation for the people. There are many great problems which are very important for the country but I am discussing the ones I [words indistinct] which is the judicial problem. [end recording]

The police courts will be located in all sectors of the country where there are Sandinist police stations so that justice can be better enforced.

The courts will have four sections: One to try minor offenses such as drunkenness and vagrancy; one to deal with consolidation and arbitration [words indistinct] to hear complaints of two parties and issue a ruling; one to hear cases of general crime such as thefts and homicides and issue instructions and one to hear special crimes which deal with major offenses. This court will be in charge of police investigations, including technical reports concerning finger printing, [word indistinct], composite drawings and [word indistinct]. This will help speed up the judicial process and justice will be administered in the best way. We are already working on trials of this kind in Managua, Meza Castellanos concluded.

ANDEAN PACT DELEGATION ARRIVES FOR VISIT

PA261407 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2814 GMT 26 Jan 80 PA

[Text] Managua, 26 Jan (ACAN-EFE)--As part of its rapprochement tour with the Central American countries, a three-member Andean Pact delegation arrived today in Managua.

The group includes Ecuadorean Foreign Ministry adviser Galo Leoro, Colombian Ambassador to Venezuela Cornelio Reyes, Venezuelan Ambassador to the OAS Hilarion Cardozo and Carlos Pozo, the group's secretary.

According to a Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry spokesman, the visitors seek not only to expand the friendly ties but also to learn about the advances and goals of the Nicaraguan revolution firsthand.

The mission of the Andean Pact, of which Colombia, Venezuela, Ecuador, Peru and Bolivia are members, will meet today at noon with the five junta members ruling this country and with the Sandinist National Liberation Front leaders conducting the revolution.

The South American diplomats will hold a news conference before going on tomorrow to Guatemala and El Salvador.

CASTRO ISSUES STATEMENT ON SITUATION IN RHODESIA

FL281235 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1145 GMT 28 Jan 80 FL

[Text] Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, as chairman of the nonalined countries movement, has issued a message concerning the events that are taking place in Rhodesia.

The message explains that Tanzanian President Julius Nyerere, at the request of the presidents of the frontline states and in accordance with a meeting held by these countries on 10 January, sent Foreign Minister Benjamin Mkapa [to Cuba] to convey the protest of the aforementioned nations over the action undertaken by British authorities in Rhodesia.

In the opinion of these countries, says the message, the British authorities are violating the letter and spirit of the Lancaster House agreements. They state that in accordance with what happens in Rhodesia in coming days and weeks, the frontline states will undertake diplomatic actions among which is summoning the UN Security Council to discuss this issue.

As a result of the information conveyed to me by President Nyerere, says Fidel in his message, I address myself to the members of the nonalined countries movement to ask them that, in keeping with agreements reached at the nonalined sixth summit conference, they act in support of the rights of the people of Zimbabwe and the Patriotic Front to demand from British authorities the strictest respect for the Lancaster House agreements.

The message points out that the situation in Rhodesia is characterized by the presence of South African troops, which is contrary to the assurances given during the conference in London, and that the British governor has not acted in accordance with the assurances given for the concentration of Patriotic Front forces. He did not increase the number of assembly points demanded by the Patriotic Front and neither did he act with a spirit conducive to the success of the cease-fire and the preparation for free and fair elections. A number of fighters for the freedom of Zimbabwe have been assassinated. The British governor in Rhodesia likewise is using the troops of the Smith-Muzorewa regime to control peace, in direct violation of the Lancaster House agreement. A group of these forces killed the Patriotic Front soldiers when these were going to assembly points. The British governor now says that they were acting in accordance with their rights.

The message of the chairman of the nonalined countries movement adds that the auxiliary forces of Salisbury, in other words, the armed followers of Bishop Muzorewa, have been left on their own, and in fact now are moving to the areas which the Patriotic Front forces had evacuated, occupying them when the latter move out to the assembly points. The message states that these Muzorewa forces are terrorizing and frightening the people in many places and the Patriotic Front forces are being surrounded by those of their racist enemies. Moreover, the British governor at no time has gone to the cease-fire commission, where all parties are represented, to consider violations.

All these facts, states Fidel's message, show the total lack of seriousness of the British authorities in Salisbury and are equivalent to a violation of the letter and spirit of the Lancaster House agreements. It then adds: The British Government is not fulfilling the agreements that were reached under its chairmanship in London. It thereby ceases to guarantee that elections be free and fair, which is its principal responsibility. There cannot be free and fair elections if the aforementioned conditions prevail, the message emphasizes, if the South African troops remain in Rhodesia and if the Smith-Muzorewa forces are allowed to move with complete freedom and to intimidate the people.

In his message to the nonalined countries, Fidel says that in denouncing this situation at the request of the frontline countries, we are certain that all members of the movement, in the face of the gravity of the situation, will join in the denunciation and protest and will offer all their support to the Patriotic Front and to the cause of a free and independent Zimbabwe.

RODRIGUEZ MEETS WITH GDR ELECTRONICS MINISTER

FL261723 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 26 Jan FL

[Text] Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, member of the party Politburo and vice president of the councils of State and Ministers, has received GDR Electronics Minister Otfried Steger who is making an official visit to our country. Matters concerning bilateral cooperation and topics of mutual interest were discussed during the friendly and fraternal meeting.

GDR Ambassador to Cuba Harry Spindler, and the Cuban ministers of the iron and steel machinery industry and communications, Marcos Lage and Pedro Guelmes, respectively, participated in the meeting.

TRADE TALKS WITH PORTUGAL OPEN IN HAVANA

FL290229 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 29 Jan 80 FL

[Text] The third meeting of the Cuban-Portuguese mixed commission on economic cooperation began today in Havana. The Portuguese delegation is headed by Armando de Sousa e Almeida, state secretary for foreign trade, and Dr (Manuela Lima), director of services for bilateral relations of the foreign trade general directorate. Representing Cuba are Manuel Estefania, vice minister for exports, and Armando Blanco, director for trade policy of the Foreign Trade Ministry.

The working sessions will continue until next Wednesday when a cooperation protocol will be signed. The Portuguese delegation arrived in our country on 27 January. During its stay in Cuba it will visit state agencies and offices of the Foreign Trade Ministry.

GOVERNMENT TAKES MEASURES ON RIGHT OF ASYLUM

PA271728 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 27 Jan 80 PA

[Text] In an official note issued in Havana, the Cuban Foreign Relations Ministry has announced that the Cuban Government will not grant exit permits to persons who force their way into diplomatic missions and do not meet requirements for the right to request protection according to the right of asylum.

The official note points out that it has been internationally recognized that the right of asylum is granted persons in imminent danger of losing either their life or freedom for strictly political reasons and who must, therefore, seek asylum in diplomatic missions.

BRIEFS

AMBASSADOR TO CANADA--Cuba's Council of State has designated Comrade Carlos Amat ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Republic of Cuba to Canada. Until his appointment Comrade Carlos Amat was director of the Foreign Ministry's Latin America and Caribbean Department. [Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 25 Jan 80 FL]

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

FISHERMEN DETAINED IN CUBA; CREDIT AGREEMENT WITH HAITI

FL261350 Santo Domingo Radio Mil Network in Spanish 1000 GMT 26 Jan 80 FL

[Text] The foreign secretary of the Dominican Republic yesterday confirmed that nine Dominican fishermen are detained in Cuba although he ruled out that they are under arrest. Retired Vice Adm Ramon Emilio Jimenez said the Dominicans reached Cuban waters by mistake and could not return home [words indistinct]. According to the chief of Dominican diplomacy, the government of President Antonio Guzman is trying to secure the return of the fishermen detained in Cuba.

Foreign Secretary Ramon Emilio Jimenez was interviewed by journalists at the conclusion of the signing ceremony for a reciprocal credit agreement between the central banks of the Dominican Republic and Haiti. Jimenez went on to say: it is true that nine Dominican fishermen are detained in Cuba; however, I want to clarify that they are not in jail although their legal status has to be resolved before they return home. [passage indistinct]

GRENADA

BISHOP: U.S. MAIN THREAT TO PEACE IN MIDEAST

FL252017 Kingston Domestic Service in English 2030 GMT 25 Jan 80 FL

[Text] Grenadian Prime Minister Maurice Bishop told journalists in London today that the United States and not the Soviet Union posed the main threat to peace in the Middle East and he said it was for this reason that Grenada supported Moscow in the United Nations General Assembly vote condemning the Soviet presence in Afghanistan.

Mr Bishop, who was on his way home after a visit to the Libyan Jamahiriya, Algeria and Syria, said Grenada was not convinced Moscow's action constituted an invasion. He went on to charge that the United States was supporting counterrevolutionary movements based in Pakistan which were attempting to undermine the Afghan Government.

Turning to the question of U.S.-Grenada relations, Mr Bishop said he had evidence that mercenaries had received unofficial American assistance in abortive coups in October and November and because of this, relations with Washington were strained.

GRENADA PRIME MINISTER ARRIVES IN ALGIERS

For reportage on Grenadian Prime Minister Maurice Bishop's Middle East Tour, see the 16 January and subsequent issues of Middle East & North Africa DAILY REPORT.

FINANCIAL AID FROM ALGERIA, LIBYA, SYRIA FORTHCOMING

FL282201 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2108 GMT 28 Jan 80 FL

[Text] During a refueling stopover in Kingston, Jamaica enroute to his country, Grenada's Prime Minister Maurice Bishop announced that his country will get financial aid amounting to $10 million from Algeria, Libya and Syria. The prime minister of Grenada has just concluded an official visit to those Arab countries, where he finalized agreements on economic and commercial cooperation.

In a press conference, Bishop explained that the financial aid will be used mainly for the completion of a modern air terminal currently under construction at Point Salines on the outskirts of St Georges, capital of Grenada. Grenada's international airport, which is being built with Cuba's technical assistance, will cost $45 million and will be equipped to receive large jetliners.

JAMAICA

CULTURAL, SCIENTIFIC AGREEMENT WITH SOVIETS UPDATED

FL231515 Kingston DAILY GLEANER in English 19 Jan 80 p 1 FL

[Text] The 1980/81 work programme for cultural and scientific exchange between the Soviet Union and Jamaica was signed on Wednesday at Jamaica House.

This work programme is a development of the scientific and cultural agreement signed between the Soviet Union and Jamaica in 1978, under which the work programme is renewed every two years.

The 1980/81 work programme will cover areas in science, and education; culture and arts, cinema, radio broadcasting, T.V. and other media, sports, copyright and book publishing, health and social security. It will also promote the development of contacts between youth organisations, women organisations and other organisations.

Signing on behalf of the U.S.S.R. was the Soviet ambassador to Jamaica, Mr. Dimitri Musin and on behalf of Jamaica, the Hon. Arnold Bertram, minister of state in the Office of the Prime Minister.

Speaking after the signing, Mr. Bertram said he looked foreward to the implementation of the programme which would strengthen the links between the U.S.S.R. and Jamaica, and would help to broaden friendship between both countries.

The Soviet ambassador said the programme reflected the friendship which had developed between both countries. He also said that this type of programme was one of the best means of promoting understanding between people and of developing friendly relations.

Present at the signing were officials of the Soviet Embassy and the Office of the Prime Minister, representatives of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and a representative of the attorney-general's office.

EFFECT OF PAST FINANCIAL AID 'SLOW POISON'

FL281402 Kingston Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 28 Jan 80 FL

[Text] The minister of state in the Ministry of Finance and Planning, Senator Richard Fletcher, says remarks made by Security Minister Dudley Thompson at a private meeting in Libya about aid to Jamaica had been misreported.

Senator Fletcher returned home yesterday from a visit to the Middle East and North Africa on a government mission with Mr Thompson. Mr Fletcher said that in the talks Mr Thompson referred to the fact that over the past few years the financial assistance received by Jamaica had been inadequate to meet its difficulties and that, as a result, the effect of that assistance was as if Jamaica was taking slow poison. But Mr Fletcher said that Mr Thompson did not accuse the United States of giving Jamaica slow poison.

TRINIDAD & TOBAGO

NIGERIAN ENVOY RECALLED AFTER DISPUTE WITH ARGENTINA

FL281525 Bridgetown ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 24 Jan 80 p 9 FL

[Text] Port-of-Spain, Trinidad, Wednesday, (CANA)--Nigeria yesterday confirmed that its high commissioner to Trinidad and Tobago, Mr. Oluremi Adesola, had been recalled following last September's housing row with an Argentine diplomat here.

But the Nigerian Government said the Dr. Eric Williams administration here did not influence the decision.

Nigeria's views on the row between Mr. Adesola and Argentina's ambassador Mr. William Cash, who was evicted from his official residence by Nigerian guards, were given by visiting minister of state in the Nigerian Ministry of External Affairs, Chief Patrick Bolokor, during a press conference.

The news conference followed talks between the minister's five-member party, which left here yesterday for home, and Dr. Williams and his Foreign Affairs Minister Mr. John Donaldson.

The chief said: "On our side, we decided to pull out our envoy to enhance the good relations between Argentina, our country and Trinidad and Tobago." The Trinidad and Tobago Government had not asked for the high commissioner's recall, he added.

The housing row flared up last September, but the ex-high commissioner left for home only recently, amid speculation that his role in the affair had angered Nigeria. There had been no official statement.

The Nigerians took over the diplomat's official residence on September 23 while the Argentinians were still asleep. Argentine Government officials had used the building for 10 years, but last July the Nigerians bought it. The lease under which the Argentine diplomat occupied the building was due for expiry at the end of 1979.

Matters arising out of the seizure of the residence of the Argentine ambassador have been resolved, the Nigerian minister said.

During the press conference at the Hilton Hotel, north of Port-of-Spain following a two-day goodwill visit to this oil-rich-twin island state, Chief Bolokor said that relations between Trinidad and Tobago and Nigeria were not as good as they could have been following the row.

ST LUCIA

LOUISY REPLACES OPPOSING MINISTERS TRYING TO TOPPLE HIM

FL281520 Port-of-Spain Trinidad GUARDIAN in English 24 Jan 80 p 1 FL

[Excerpt] Castries, Wed--The leadership crisis within the St Lucia Government that has plunged the country into a state of confusion took a new turn today with Prime Minister Allan Louisy announcing the appointment of two new ministers to counter a Cabinet boycott by colleagues supporting his challenger and deputy, Mr. George Odlum.

The move came amid confirmation by one of Mr. Louisy's opponents in the government that the ministers supporting Mr. Odlum had decided to attend no more Cabinet meetings until the controversy was resolved to their satisfaction.

Agriculture Minister Peter Josie, one of Mrs. Odlum's leading backers in the dispute, said the plan to boycott Cabinet was to hamstring the prime minister since he would be without a quorum.

But Mr. Louisy's action today effectively took care of the situation.

Odlum in Germany

Of the nine ministers in the original Cabinet--one is yet to take his oath of office--three are supporting Mr. Odlum and three are behind Mr. Louisy with the attorney general in the middle declaring himself neutral.

The additional two ministers without portfolio who took their oaths of office today effectively give Mr. Louisy the upper hand.

Mr. Bruce Williams, 61, had his appointment as parliamentary secretary (trade) revoked and was appointed minister without portfolio.

The other new minister without portfolio is Mr. Cecil Lay, 35, the deputy speaker in the 17-member House of Assembly.

Mr. Louisy has shown no intention of dismissing members of the pro-Odlum faction from the Cabinet. Mr. Odlum left here yesterday for Germany on an industrial and tourism promotion drive.

ST VINCENT

PRIME MINISTER CATO RETAINS SEVEN-MAN CABINET

FL242054 Kingston Domestic Service in English 2030 GMT 24 Jan 80 FL

[Text] Prime Minister Milton Cato of St Vincent has retained the seven-man Cabinet which has been the government of the island since 1974. The appointments were published in the official government gazette.

Seven government ministers who were hurriedly sworn in during December following the uprising on Union Island have kept their portfolios which they had held since 1974. No deputy prime minister has been named but Mr Hudson Tannis, the minister for home affairs and tourism, is generally regarded as the man to take the job. Mr Cato will also have the portfolio of minister of finance, information and Grenadine affairs.

23 INVOLVED IN ABORTIVE COUP FORMALLY CHARGED

FL252049 Kingston Domestic Service in English 2030 GMT 25 Jan 80 FL

[Text] Police in St Vincent have formally charged 23 of the people detained in connection with last month's abortive coup on the ward island Union. Reports from the Vincentian capital, Kingstown, said that among this number were 17 people who were last week before the [words indistinct] review tribunal. They have been charged for unlawfully and maliciously causing an explosion of a nature likely to endanger life. They also face the lesser charge of taking away uniforms, rifles and ammunition from the police station on Union Island.

Originally, some 47 people were held for complicity in the December 7th armed uprising on the island, 47 miles away from the mainland.